

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.


Claims 1-6 and 9-12 remain in the application. Claims 1-6 and 9-12 are subject to examination. Claim 1 has been amended.

In items 1-7 on pages 2-3 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1-6 and 11-12 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,467,388 to Redd, Jr. et al. (hereinafter Redd) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Redd teaches a way of blocking unwanted telephone calls while letting calls from certain subscribers go through. In response to a calling subscriber placing a telephone call to another subscriber, the calling subscriber receives a message informing him/her that the called subscriber is not available and/or asking that a PIN number be input. This PIN is compared with PINs in a database and if a match is found, a connection is setup, i.e. the call goes through to the called subscriber

First, Redd is not believed to teach initiating a telecommunication service to be triggered in response to an event which differs from a connection setting-up request from a subscriber (i.e. a call from a subscriber). Redd

specifically teaches initiating the telecommunication service due to a connection setting-up request from a subscriber. For example, in Redd, A calls D, due to the call from A, a call-blocking service is invoked. The connection is then either setup or not setup, depending on the entered PIN by caller A. In contrast, claim 1 of the instant application recites "initiating a telecommunication service to be triggered in response to an event which differs from a connection setting-up request from a subscriber" emphasis added. The triggering event is any event that is not a phone call to the subscriber (i.e. a late flight). As the Examiner points out, Redd does teach turning on the call blocking capability with a phone call (see col. 5-6 lines 63-2 of Redd). However, the actual telecommunication service is not initiated by this call, the ability for this service is only activated. Perhaps an analogy would help. An alarm system is armed by pushing a button alarming the system, but the alarm is not initiated until a triggering event is detected by the alarm system.

 Second, Redd does not teach generating a virtual telephone number in a service control point after activating the telecommunication service, as recited in amended claim 1 of the instant application (please note support for this change is found on page 10, lines 24-26). Redd teaches first generating the virtual telephone number and then activating

the telecommunication service. The system number, which can be a virtual telephone number, that is taught by Redd is known to the subscriber in advance, i.e. before the telecommunication service is activated. The virtual telephone number appearing in claim 1 of the instant application is unique for every service instance in order to identify the referred event.

A Third, Redd does not teach using a switching point to transmit the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the telecommunication service after the occurrence of the event (as recited in the fifth paragraph of claim 1 of the instant application). The virtual telephone number in Redd is used for programming the desired extent of call blocking capability. The Examiner states that column 9, lines 21-42, column 11, lines 35-48 and/or column 13, lines 7-11 teach the step of using a switching point to transmit the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the telecommunication service. The SSPs 11, 13, 15 and 17 of Redd are programmed to recognize unblocked numbers and to allow those calls through. It is respectfully stated that none of the columns recited by the Examiner are believed to state using a switching point to transmit the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the

telecommunication service. The Examiner's clarification and further insight on this point would be most helpful.

In regards to claim 11 of the instant application and for the reasons specified above with regard to claim 1, Redd is not believed to disclose: means for signaling the virtual telephone number to a service provider; or a switching point for transmitting the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the telecommunication service after the occurrence of the event.

In regards to claim 12 of the instant application and for the reasons specified above with regard to claim 1, Redd is not believed to disclose a switching point for transmitting a virtual telephone number from a service provider to initiate the telecommunication service after an occurrence of an event.

In items 8 and 9 on page 4 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 9 and 10 have been rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,457,388 to Redd, Jr. et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 9 and 10 are dependent on claim 1. Claim 1 is believed to be allowable and therefore claims 9 and 10 are also believed to be allowable.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the modes and/or features of claims 1, 11 and 12. Claims 1, 11 and 12 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6 and 9-12 are solicited.

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicants

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